## Message Text

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**ACTION ARA-10** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06

SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 DEAE-00

SNM-02 PA-01 PRS-01 /094 W

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R 141631Z OCT 75 FM AMEMBASSY QUITO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7591 INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

CONFIDENTIAL QUITO 7561

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG EFIN EAID SNAR EC

SUBJECT: FINANCE MINISTER SAYS GOE SEEKING SOLUTION PETROLEUM PROBLEMS; LOANS FROM U.S. BANK CONSORTIUM

- 1. AMBASSADOR, DCM AND USAID MISSION DIRECTOR PAID COURTESY CALL ON NEW FINANCE MINISTER JAIME MORILLO OCTOBER 13. DURING COURSE OF CALL FINMIN SAID THAT GOE WAS CURRENTLY WORKING WITH TEXACO-GULF TO SOLVE ALL OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS IN ONE PACKAGE SO THAT ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES OF PAST YEAR WOULD NOT RECUR. HE CHARACTERIZED SUCH A SOLUTION AS "ABSOLUTELY KEY" FOR THE GOVERNMENT. HE ALSO SAID GOE WORKING ON REVISION OF HYDROCARBONS LAW IN ORDER TO ATTRACT NEW FOREIGN INVESTMENT AND "AMERICAN COMPANIES" IN EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT.
- 2. FINMIN ALSO VOLUNTEERED THAT GOE CURRENTLY DISCUSSING WITH CONSORTIUM OF US BANKS (CHASE, BANK OF AMERICA, MANUFACTURERS HANOVER, FNCB, AND WELLS FARGO) FOR LOAN TO BE USED FOR HEAVY EQUIPMENT IMPORTS FOR CONSTRUCTION AND POWER AS WELL AS FOR GENERAL BUDGET SUPPORT.

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3. MORILLO EXPRESSED INTEREST IN LEARNING ABOUT PRESENT

ACTIVITIES OF THE DOWNWINDING AID PROGRAM INCLUDING THE NARCOTICS PROGRAM WITH CUSTOMS POLICE AND THE RESTRUCTURING OF EXISTING LOANS IN THE PIPELINE. HE MENTIONED VERY FAVORABLY AID ACTIVITES OF THE MID-60'S IN CREATING SUCH INSTITUTIONS AS THE CORPORACION FINANCIERA NACIONAL AND CENDES. HE HAD WORKED CLOSELY WITH EACH.

4. COMMENT: THE COURSES OF ACTION OUTLINED IN PARA 1
AND 2 HAVE TO DO WITH STABLILIZING THE ECONOMY FROM THE DETERIORATION WHICH WAS A FACTOR IN THE SEPTEMBER 1 COUP ATTEMPT AND
SUBSEQUENT POLITICAL MANEUVERINGS AGAINST THE RODRIGUEZ
GOVERNMENT. HAVING NOW TAKEN FIRM MEASURES TO PUT A STOP
TO THE RECENT POLITICAL/MILITARY MACHINATIONS,
THE GOE SEEMS TO BE ON A REASONABLE COURESE IN THE ECONOMIC
AREA. THE BANK BORROWING, HOWEVER, IS A SHORT TERM STOPGAP MEASURE AIMED MORE TOWARD IMMEDIATE POLITICAL NEEDS
THAN LONG TERM ECONOMIC REQUIREMENTS.

5. THE INTERVIEW WAS CORDIAL AND SUPPORTED OUR IMPRESSION THAT MORILLO IS A VERY INTELLIGENT, ABLE YOUNG MAN WHO WILL BE FAR EASIER TO DEAL WITH THAN HIS PREDECESSOR. BREWSTER

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, BANK LOANS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 14 OCT 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 19750LIITO07561

Document Number: 1975QUITO07561 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Film Number: D750356-0254

From: QUITO

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751055/aaaabxcf.tel

Line Count: 83

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION ARA Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: GolinoFR

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 09 SEP 2003

**Review Event:** 

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 SEP 2003 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <06 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>

**Review Markings:** 

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JÚL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:** Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: FINANCE MINISTER SAYS GOE SEEKING SOLUTION PETROLEUM PROBLEMS; LOANS FROM U.S. BANK CONSORTIUM

TAGS: ENRG, EFIN, EAID, SNAR, EC, US, TEXACO, GULF, (MORILLO, JAIME)

To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006